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Rural District of Warwick

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1948,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

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September, 1949.

To the Warwick Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1948, this is the 30th Annual Report I have presented to you.

As in the past few years this Report is restricted to a statement of facts, but a more extended report is given by the Sanitary Inspector.

Kindness has been extended to me by members of the Council and my colleagues, for which I am most grateful.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Warwick Rural District

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1948	...	...	19,730
Birth Rate	...	...	14.5
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	24
Death Rate	...	...	7.9
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis ,, other causes		—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	24
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			26
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

Population.—19,730 ; this estimate is 1,450 more than the figure given by the Registrar General for 1947.

Birth Rate.—14.5 per 1,000 is lower than that for 1947, and much less than the figure for England and Wales for 1948, which was 17.9 per 1,000.

Death Rate.—7.9 per 1,000, less than the figure for England and Wales, viz. 10.8 per 1,000.

Infantile Mortality.—25 per 1,000 births, less than the England and Wales figure for 1948 ; 34 per 1,000 births. It is interesting to note that 6 out of the 7 deaths in infants under 1 year, were due to premature birth or congenital conditions.

Details of statistics for the past few years, together with those for England and Wales in 1948, are given in Table II.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) *Public Health Officers*

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Cert. Sanitary Inspector,
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

F. SPENCER, Certificated Sanitary Inspector.

2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities*.—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

		Positive.		Negative.		Total.
Diphtheria	...	1	...	6	...	7
Enteric Fever	...	—	...	—	...	—
Tuberculosis	...	1	...	5	...	6
						—
						13
						—

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water*.—The two sources of public supply of water, Whitnash and Radford, have continued to be satisfactory as to quality and as to quantity for immediate purposes. The Borough of Leamington is being supplied from these schemes at the rate of about 3 million gallons per month. Both supplies are chlorinated.

(ii) Samples for bacteriological and Chemical examination of both treated and untreated water have been taken, and have been satisfactory. Samples have also been taken from public supplies in parishes where the Council is not the water supply authority, and in each case the samples have proved upon analyses, to be satisfactory.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES ANALYSIS RESULTS.

Results expressed in parts per 100,000

		<i>Radford.</i>	<i>Whitnash.</i>
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	0.000	0.0000
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	0.000	0.0000
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	2.5	3.6
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	... ..	0.27	1.0
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80°F. in 4 hours	... ..	0.008	0.010
Total Solids dried at 100° C	...	72	56
Apperance Bright Few Small Particles			
Hardness { Temporary	...	19.0	21.0
{ Permanent	...	32.0	13.0
		—	—
Total	...	51.0	34.0
Nitrite	... ..	Absent	Absent

(iii) None of the supplies is liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(iv) No action in respect of any form of contamination has been necessary.

(v) 1,600 houses out of a total of 4,685, comprising about one-third of the population, are supplied with water from the publicmains. None is supplied by means of standpipes.

2. The Council has purchased an existing bore well at Shrewley, and propose to sink a bore at Rowington, so as to provide a piped water supply to the Western area of the rural district. This area, in parts, is very short of water, many wells in Hatton and Shrewley parishes are dry, or yield very little. Water has been carted by the Council twice weekly to certain houses in this "dry" area.

SHREWLEY BOREHOLE—ANALYSIS RESULTS

Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0076
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	1.7
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	...	Absent
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80°F.				
in 4 hours.	...	...	...	0.002
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	.50
Nitrite	...	...	...	Absent
Hardness	{ Temp. 13.0 Perm. 8.0			
Total	21.0			

Water Main.—The extension of the water mains from Bishops Tachbrook to Barford is proceeding.

3. *Drain and Sewerage.*—A number of sewage schemes are being prepared and work on the Bishops Tachbrook Scheme has already commenced.

D. HOUSING

Full particulars of the usual tables have been compiled and are being kept for record purposes.

1. *Overcrowding.*—There is little to add to my last report. Overcrowding has, however, abated slightly.

2. The following table shows the first instalment of the Housing Programme. Upon completion of the Rural Housing Survey, other instalments will be prepared.

	T.	S.	P.	Completed
Bishops Tachbrook	10	—	76	27
Whitnash	10	—	40	26
Radford Semele ...	10	4	72	20
Offchurch	—	—	16	—
Hunningham	—	—	18	—
Eathorpe	—	—	8	—
Weston-under- Weatherley	—	—	8	—
Cubbington	10	—	103	16
Baginton	—	—	24	—
Stoneleigh	—	2	36	2
Ashow	—	—	4	—
Old Milverton ...	—	—	6	—
Leek Wootton ...	—	—	22	—
Wasperton, Barford and Sherbourne	—	—	52	—
Norton Lindsey ...	—	—	8	—
Budbrooke	—	—	18	—
Hatton	—	—	30	—
Shrewley	—	2	8	2
Lowsonford	—	2	15	10
Rowington	—	—	20	—
Lapworth	—	—	16	—
			12	—
Baddesley Clinton ...	—	—	8	—
Beausale	—	—	12	12
	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	40	12	632	115
	—	—	—	—

T. Temporary. S. Swedish. P. Permanent.

3. *Fitness of Houses.*—The general conditions of many houses is on the poor side. Many condemned cottages, are still occupied and will need to be occupied for some time yet, but more repairs have been carried out this year than for several past years.

4. *Temporary Dwellings.*—The temporary hutments, many erected during the war as shelters, are still with us, and unfortunately, have to serve as dwellings. It is hoped that the time is not too far distant when these structures can be removed and the occupants properly housed.

E. INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This is dealt with in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1941.

		Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1942	...	—	11	13	—	17	—	—
1943	...	—	16	19	—	22	—	1
1944	...	—	8	30	—	9	—	—
1945	...	—	9	48	—	13	—	1
1946	...	—	5	16	—	6	—	2
1947	...	—	7	23	1	4	—	—
1948	...	—	—	24	1	5	—	1

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1948.

Scarlet Fever.—The 24 cases notified were well distributed throughout the district, 16 cases occurred on the boundaries of Coventry.

Diphtheria.—No cases notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—During the year immunisation of the school children continued, and up to December 31st, 1,638 children between 5 and 15 years had been treated, also 1,089 under 5 years, a total of 2,727.

School Closures.—Nil.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

			NEW CASES.						DEATHS.					
						Non-						Non-		
			Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.		
AGE—PERIODS			M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...
0	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
1	—	—	...	1	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
5	—	1	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
15	2	1	...	1	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
25	4	3	...	—	—	...	1	—	...	—	—
35	3	1	...	—	2	...	1	—	...	1	1
45	2	1	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
55	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
65 and upwards			...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	2	...	—	—
			...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
TOTALS			...	11	7	...	2	2	...	2	2	...	1	1
			...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the Warwick Rural District during the past 20 years :—

TUBERCULOSIS

		1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Cases	...	12	9	10	16	14	8	11
Deaths	...	10	6	5	6	7	3	3
		1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Cases	...	20	20	22	23	18	27	12
Deaths	...	7	6	7	4	3	6	2
		1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	
Cases	...	22	11	26	19	22	22	
Deaths	...	4	4	4	7	7	6	

During the year 22 cases of tuberculosis have been notified, 18 of which were of pulmonary and 4 of other forms of tuberculosis.

Sanatorium.—During the year 3 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, and 2 were discharged.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ending December, 1948.

Public Cleansing.

Progress in the Public Cleansing has been maintained and the service now covers, with the exception of isolated premises, the whole of the district. The collection of dry refuse is once a fortnight, which is carried out by means of three mechanically driven refuse collection vehicles, with a fourth in reserve. A 10cwt. van is provided for the foreman, who uses it for his supervisory duties and for collecting salvage. Salvage figures have increased considerably this year, particularly paper. The introduction of a bonus of £2 a ton payable to the men has proved a popular incentive.

Labour difficulties, mentioned in previous reports, are not now acute.

The new cesspool emptying machine was delivered and two machines have been fully occupied. One is used chiefly for emptying cesspools and maintenance work in connection with the number of small sewage disposal installations owned by the Council; the other is used chiefly for collection of nightsoil, but both machines collect nightsoil and empty cesspools. The nightsoil buckets are emptied once per week, cesspools upon request. There is no direct charge made for collecting nightsoil, but a charge is made for emptying cesspools.

The whole of the district is not covered by the nightsoil collection service, but it is hoped to extend this service to other parishes. The chief difficulty experienced at present is the lack of tipping space for disposal of refuse, but it is hoped that this difficulty will be overcome.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Routine inspections have been made to food premises, including canteens and shops.

Milk and Dairies.

Routine inspections have been made to Dairy premises, 7 applications have been received for registration under the Milk and Dairies Order. All applications receive careful consideration and are not registered unless or until the premises are satisfactory.

The County Council is the responsible authority for the issue of licences to producers of T.T. and Accredited Milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—Visits have been made in connection, with emergency slaughter and cottagers' pigs, and to canteens and shops a small quantity of food has been surrendered as set out in Table I.

Temporary Housing.

The "Squatters" camps are still with us, but as a result of repairs and alterations carried out by the Council they are greatly improved. There are still a number of temporary buildings in the district, most of them legacies from the war years, but it is difficult to take any action until the building position is easier.

Sanitary Services.

The provision of sanitary services over the greater part of the district has been the subject, by the Council and its appropriate Committees, of a great deal of thought. The most ambitious scheme is that known as the Western Area Water Scheme. Other schemes which are in course of preparation by the Consulting Engineers are :—

Barford water supply.

Barford and Sherbourne Sewage.

Bishops Tachbrook Sewage.

Baginton Sewage.

Cublington, Offchurch and Radford Sewage.

Progress made by the Consultant Architects in the preparation of the Housing Schemes is enumerated elsewhere.

Rodent Control.

A Rodent Operative, known formerly as a rat catcher, has operated throughout the year. The operator spends approximately half his time in inspections of likely rat and mice infestations, and the remainder in rat destruction. The methods employed are those advocated by the Ministry and they are undoubtedly satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

E. A. LYNE,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1948.

	Inspections and observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances abated after notice.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	432	19	111	73
Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds ...	113	—	43	32
Bakehouses	7	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses and Butchers' Shops	3	—	—	—
Ashpits and privies	49	—	—	—
Food Preparation Premises ...	41	—	—	—
Ashbins substituted for Ashpits ...	30	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	35	—	8	8
Water Closets	27	—	11	11
House Drainage	41	—	17	17
Water Supply	161	—	56	42
Pigsties	36	—	9	9
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Factories	21	—	3	3
Shops	33	—	—	—
TOTALS	1029	19	258	192

Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food :—

Pork	300 lbs.
Canned Goods	39 tins
Fish	—
Flour	—
Eggs	—
Dried Food	57 lbs.
Samples of Water taken for analysis ...	101
Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use	21
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	29

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1948 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1942	18,440	297	16.1	5	17	137	7.5
1943	18,600	260	14.0	11	41	156	8.4
1944	19,120	311	16.3	9	29	140	7.3
1945	17,850	241	13.5	15	62	164	9.2
1946	17,800	263	14.8	16	61	169	9.5
1947	18,280	296	16.2	11	37	201	11.0
1948	19,730	285	14.5	7	25	155	7.9

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1948.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1948.
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

				Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	...	17.9	0.42	10.8	34	
126 Great Towns, including London			20.0	0.52	11.6	39	
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	19.2	0.43	10.7	32	
London	...	...	20 1	0.39	11.6	31	

TABLE III.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1948.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.									Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.									
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.			
Small-pox ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plague ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	24	.....	6	17	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....
Typhus Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	5	.....	.....	.....	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Malaria ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	96	.....	.....	.....	2	38	39	17	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Poliomyelitis ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	18	.....	.....	1	3	10	2	2	.....	.....	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	.....	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Totals	152	1	7	18	8	57	41	20	.....	5	9

TABLE IV.
WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	78	77
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	1
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	1
8 Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9 Influenza	—	1
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	2	1
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	—	4
15 Cancer of Breast	—	4
16 Cancer, other Sites	14	7
17 Diabetes	—	1
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	5	9
19 Heart Disease	23	19
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	5	1
21 Bronchitis	4	3
22 Pneumonia	1	3
23 Other Resp. Diseases	—	—
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	—	1
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	—	—
26 Appendicitis	—	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	1	3
28 Nephritis	1	4
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31 Premature Birth	1	—
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	1	4
33 Suicide	3	2
34 Road Traffic Accidents	1	1
35 Other Violent Causes	2	2
36 All Other Causes	6	4

